



17 August 2022

Dear Members,

I hope this Letter finds you all well,

I am writing this letter with a touch of sadness as the outgoing chairman of the association. You will by now see that at the recent AGM Jim Hawkins was elected as the new chairman. I will be conducting a handover with Jim in the coming days.

My time as chairman has been eventful. The maintaining and building upon its membership, guiding us through the covid pandemic and presiding over numerous reunions to list but a few, but as I indicated in my spring message being close to retirement and with current work commitments, I did not feel I could continue to dedicate the time needed to the chairman's position.

As some of the older brethren in the association will realise, I put together re-unions as far back as 1997. When along with the WO of the school and the PO's course at the time I put together A BBQ which eventually morphed into the Association in 2008 and to its current state today. I am sure you will therefore realise how hard the decision has been to decide to step back from the chairman's role.

As I hand over to Jim and look ahead, I do see a bright future. Jim is an ideal choice and has all the credentials to lead us forward as Chairman. We have a good committee of Ex and serving members. We have a great challenge to raise money for our next project a monument in the National arboretum for the Minewarfare branch past and present. Also, our first attendance at the Cenotaph this November and of course our 15th Anniversary reunion next March to name a few.

I would just like to finish by saying a big thank you to everyone past and present for all the support in making the association what it is today. However just because I am retiring as chairman does not mean I am disappearing. I will remain active and supportive in the background and will enjoy washing the dust of the day away with you all at future events.

Yours Aye

P.T. Reader

Taff R

Outgoing Chairman Minewarfare Association